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WHOLE NUMBER 1059.

No Other Town in the World the Size of Grants Pass Has a Paper With Full Leased Wire Telegraph Service.

CONTRACT HAS BEEN LET FOR SUGAR FACTORY

APPAM PRIZE OF WAR SAYS BOARD

Captured Liner Is Said by Naval Advisers to Be the Captor's Game, and Should Be Interned Till War Ends

Washington, Feb. 2.—The naval neutrality board recommended to the state department this afternoon that the British liner Appam, at Norfolk, be considered a prize of war and not a converted auxiliary cruiser.

If the state department accepts this advice, the Appam can be interned and restored to Germany after the war. At the same time this would protect the owners through lessening the likelihood that the vessel would attempt to dash to sea.

Moreover it would give them an opportunity to urge their claims until the government was able to make a final decision.

Norfolk, Va., Feb. 2.—Snatched from the deep by a German prize crew after being given up for lost, the big British African liner Appam rode at anchor today while both British and Germans aboard her awaited Washington's word as to her disposal.

This decision was expected today. Involved in it was the question of whether the Appam is a German privateer, subject to internment, or a prize, subject either to internment or release to the British owners.

The long hulk of the ship was dimly seen from shore, bobbing in the fog and rain. Aboard her, 450 British prisoners, in charge of 42 Germans, awaited permission to go ashore, and it was anticipated that the vessel would go soon to Newport News to discharge non-combatants.

Communication with the ship was strictly prohibited, and meantime port officials kept a guard on board to maintain status quo between German and British subjects.

Lieut. Borg, German commander in charge of the prize crew, gave evidence that the Moewe which captured the Appam and seven other craft was not a regular war craft, but an auxiliary reserve. Much depends, too, upon what classification is given the Appam. The situation presented by her presence in this port has given

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COLOMBIAN TREATY REPORTED FAVORABLY

(By United Press Leased Wire.) Washington, Feb. 2.—After paring the proposed indemnity from \$25,000,000 down to \$15,000,000, and changing the "apology" to an expression of mutual regret, the senate foreign affairs committee today favorably reported the Colombian treaty by a vote of eight to seven. Senator Borah announced that he would try for open instead of secret consideration of the treaty when it reaches the floor.

The Nicaraguan treaty, proposing payment of \$3,000,000 for canal rights was reported favorably 10 to 3. The measure, say democrats, is to prevent competition with the Panama canal on the part of Nicaragua, but the republicans claim it is a move to finance the present Nicaraguan administration.

MARSHALL CASTS DECIDING VOTE ON ISLAND ISSUE

Washington, Feb. 2.—With Vice-President Marshall casting the deciding vote in favor thereof, the senate late this afternoon declared for Philippine independence within four years. Before he voted the senate stood 41 to 41 on the amendment of Senator Clarke to the administration bill proposing this step.

The senate rejected the Cummins' amendment to the Philippine bill, proposing to free and recognize the islands as soon as voters approve a republic there. Senator Hitchcock introduced an amendment proposing independence in from four to six years. If a republic is set up and approved by an election, America, however, would retain coaling stations on the islands and remain the "most favored nation" in treaties. The senate also rejected this amendment.

The Clarke amendment calls for independence in four years, with no responsibilities on the United States or other nations to protect the island from international or internal troubles.

VILLA REPORTED TO BE IN LOS ANGELES

(By United Press Leased Wire.) Los Angeles, Feb. 2.—Reports that Francisco Villa is living near Pasadena, and that he strolls boldly through the streets of Los Angeles by night, and that he visits his wife here, were investigated today by Mexican Consul Adolfo Carrillo and A. M. Blanford, department of justice special agent. Both believe the reports to be unfounded, but nevertheless think them worthy of inquiry. Mrs. Villa denies her husband is here.

GRAFT WITNESSES FAIL TO AGREE

Olympia, Wash., Feb. 2.—Flatly denying the story of Frank Stone, confessed forger, J. F. Gillies, former claim agent of the state industrial insurance commission, continued his testimony today, after throwing a veritable bomb into the proceedings yesterday when he testified that Industrial Insurance Commissioner A. B. Ernest, of Seattle, had given him \$1,200 to keep under a sort of a trust fund.

Gillies, who is on trial for grand larceny in connection with the looting of the industrial insurance fund, made this statement in explanation in the rise of his bank account between February and September, 1915. When Gillies was arrested, he promised to "rock the state," and this apparently is what he meant. Ernest in an interview flatly denied Gillies' statement.

SIXTEEN KILLED IN WRECK OF CALAIS EXPRESS

Paris, Feb. 2.—Sixteen persons are reported to have been killed and 45 injured in a wreck today of the Calais express at a suburb of this city.

HEIR APPARENT TO TURK THRONE SUICIDES

Amsterdam, Feb. 2.—Prince Yusuf Izzeddin, heir apparent to the throne of Turkey, has committed suicide, said unconfirmed Constantinople reports today.

It was said the prince had cut his arteries because he was despondent over a protracted illness, and in disfavor with the sultan because of opposition to the Turko-German alliance.

BUILD TWO FACTORIES IF ENOUGH BEETS ARE GROWN

C. W. Nibley Authorizes Statement That Farmers Can Sign Up One-Year Contracts for Acreage if They Wish, as Seed Can Be Obtained, and Invites "Swamping" Original Institution With Business to Bring Another One

Salt Lake City, Utah, Feb. 2, 1916. F. S. Bramwell, Superintendent, Grants Pass, Oregon.

Contract was let for factory today. Father wants us to increase acreage with one-year contracts. We can get seed. He says if we will swamp this factory with beets, the company will immediately begin the construction of another one. You and Storey go after the acreage hard. May be here a week yet.

ALEX. NIBLEY.

The receipt of the above telegram, following close upon the encouraging news of Tuesday, brings with it absolute assurance of progress in the matter of building the sugar factory.

Word of the letting of the contract had been anticipated, however, as it was known that factory-building firms had been invited to send their representatives to Salt Lake City more than a week ago. The telegram does not state to what firm the contract was let, but Mr. Bramwell says that a company from New York has built most of the factories for the Salt Lake City people. This firm contracts for the erection of the

buildings and the installation of the machinery complete and ready to operate, and will undoubtedly build the factory in this valley.

From the tone of the telegram it is evident that the seed situation has been solved, and that all who wish to plant beets can be accommodated. Those who are unable to make five-year contracts can also be taken care of with one-year contracts, thus making available a considerable acreage that could not be otherwise planted. This feature in the new contracts will bring several hundred more acres in to beet production in the vicinity of Grants Pass this spring.

DRIFTING SNOWS IN THE CASCADE MOUNTAINS STOP RAILWAY TRAFFIC

(By United Press Leased Wire.) Tacoma, Feb. 2.—The heaviest and most continuous snow storms experienced in this section of the Pacific coast for a decade have played havoc with railroad and street car transportation, prostrated telephone and telegraph wires and created a condition that is considered today as pre-aging serious floods when warmer weather sets in.

Dynamite has been resorted to in the Cascade mountains to break up the hard-packed drifts before big rotary snow plows are sent charging into the mass. The Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad's east-bound "Olympian" train is reported caught in huge drifts of snow near Lake Keechelus. Slow progress is being made in extricating the train.

At the west portal of the Milwaukee tunnel in the Cascades twenty feet of snow is reported. Within a few minutes after a snow plow has made its way through the mountain passes, the tracks are again covered with the swirling, drifting flakes and the services of rotary plows are required before trains can move. The wind is howling and blowing the fresh snow into blizzard-like clouds all the way from Auburn to Cle Elum and only two Northern Pacific trains have crossed the mountains since Monday, the "North Coast Limited," east-bound, and the "Burlington Express." These trains got through only by attaching four big locomotives and a rotary plow to two cars and making headlong dashes at the drifts. By this method the ten car trains were finally got to the summit, after an all night effort.

No attempt is being made to operate freight trains.

Railroad men believe that all train service to the east may be completely cut up before night.

In Tacoma snow is falling heavily and over a foot of it now covers the ground. A strong northeast wind is whirling the snow in blinding clouds and the local weather bureau holds out no hope for a cessation of the unprecedented storm.

All mails are late. No deliveries were made to cities or towns tributary to Tacoma.

The Tacoma school board today ordered all night schools closed until Monday. A special meeting of the board was called to discuss the advisability of closing all the day schools.

Telegraph and telephone lines in southwest Washington are down and trains are running on irregular schedules or not at all. Wires between Kalama and Vancouver, Wash., were prostrated by sleet early today.

Portland, Feb. 2.—After a solid month of snow, the silver thaw struck Portland with all of its violence today. Wires, trees and buildings were encased in ice, street car traffic was demoralized and telephone and electric wires broken on every hand under the weight of the ice. Every school in Portland is closed today.

The downtown streets are streams of slush, and the gutters are running full of water from the melting snow. Sleet, driven by a southerly wind, yesterday soon developed into rain and the combination did not mix.

All night it rained, with the Willamette river rising steadily and dry creek beds running torrents. Rain was still falling this morning and freezing on wires.

Many trees have fallen from the weight of the ice which coats them. Pedestrians down town kept well to the edge of the sidewalks or carried bomb-proof umbrellas, for icicles fell constantly from buildings.

PREPAREDNESS WILSON'S THEME AT TOPEKA TODAY

Topeka, Kas., Feb. 2.—Hailed by Governor Capper as the man who has "sat undismayed upon the hottest lid since Lincoln's time," President Wilson spoke here this afternoon to 5,000 persons crammed in the auditorium. And the crowd that had braved zero weather to hear about preparedness voiced approval of the governor's "Kansas admires that kind of grit," by a mighty roar of applause. Other thousands outside battled to gain admission to the hall, already jammed, even in the aisles, but upon being promised an overflow meeting at the high school, retired there.

The scene as the president and the governor shook hands was stirring. Hundreds of American flags, released from the top of the hall, fluttered overhead, while the crowd broke forth in enthusiasm.

"You will realize," said Wilson at the outset, "that it is because I have felt it my imperative duty to assist in clarifying judgment and to sweep away things irrelevant and untrue, that I came from Washington. I want you to understand that every day is critical while the great conflict across the water endures."

"Everywhere throughout America there are combustibles and it is easy to start a fire when the air is full of sparks. It has been our desire, however, to see that these sparks do not touch the magazines."

"The loudest voices opposed to national defense have been the irresponsible ones. It is easy to talk, and to say how things ought to be done, when you do not have to do them. I have not had soldiers enough to patrol the Mexican border, nor enough soldiers to do the president's duty under certain conditions."

At this point Wilson was interrupted by the din of the crowd trying to storm the doors, but police clubbed the leaders into silence, after a few moments.

"Some one is too eager for national defense, I guess," commented the president, smilingly, as he resumed.

"I have come to tell you that the difficulties of our foreign negotiations daily increase in seriousness, delicacy and danger. And, for one thing, it may be the duty of the United States to use its instrumentalities."

SAVAGE ARMS COMPANY DAMAGED BY FIRE

(By United Press Leased Wire.) Utica, N. Y., Feb. 2.—Several sheds of the Savage Arms company plant were destroyed early today by a fire which for a while threatened the main building. Authorities are investigating on the possibility that the blaze was incendiary.

TEN MILLION LOSS IN ARKANSAS FLOOD

(By United Press Leased Wire.) Helena, Arkansas, Feb. 2.—Ten million dollars property damage and a death toll of eight is the estimated result of floods sweeping four Arkansas counties and eleven parishes in northern Louisiana. These territories are buried beneath six to 15 feet of water, while freezing weather inflicts terrible suffering on many homeless persons, and swift currents and winds imperil rescuers.

The crest of the flood is near Little Rock. Levees have burst, flooding Lake Villa. Three hundred workers are striving to save Laconia circle, but the levee there is threatening to go out at any moment.

SNOW AGAIN COVERS THE NORTHWEST

"Silver Thaw" Is Doing Much Damage in Portland, and Train Service Is Destroyed in the State of Washington

Portland, Feb. 2.—Portland is in the grip of the worst "silver thaw" in its history today. Everywhere trees and wires are breaking under the strain of heavy coatings of ice, while a mixture of rain, sleet and snow is falling in streets ankle-deep with slush.

Severe snow storms throughout Washington, Oregon and Idaho have demoralized transportation, and few trains reached Portland today.

Eighteen inches of snow fell in ten hours in some parts of eastern Oregon.

Interurban trains out of Portland were able to run slowly, but most of them were annulled because there were no passengers.

Several funerals scheduled today were postponed because it was impossible to reach the cemeteries.

Several water front concerns today began moving their wares from the lower docks, fearing that the melting snow will bring the Willamette river to unprecedented heights.

Street car traffic is completely paralyzed.

Seattle, Feb. 2.—This city of 350,000 people will have to walk until the worst snow storm of twenty years lets up. And though there is not the slightest hope of that happening for many hours, according to the weather bureau.

Hope of breaking the grip of the snow storm was abandoned by the street car people this afternoon, and they believe that no more cars will be sent out and that Seattle will have to walk until the weather changes.

Thousands of downtown business men and employees are making hotel

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"UNDERSTANDING" DUE WITH GERMANY

(By United Press Leased Wire.) Berlin, via Sayville, Feb. 2.—The foreign office has sent Ambassador von Bernstorff at Washington instructions which give a reasonable hope for a "positive understanding" in the Lusitania case, it was semi-officially stated today.

The statement was issued because of alarming reports from British sources regarding the present status of German-American relations over the Lusitania case.

"It is true," said the statement, "that Saturday Ambassador von Bernstorff cabled that he had found it thus far impossible to adjust the case in a manner satisfactory to both sides by a friendly verbal exchange. Today instructions were transmitted which give the reasonable hope for a positive understanding."

The above tends to confirm dispatches last Saturday night to the United Press from Correspondent Ackerman at Berlin. In these he said Germany is anxious for a settlement of the Lusitania case and will do what it can to provide such adjustment.